Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—No.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—For boats above 1 ton and below 2 tons, what is the rate charged? Is it that of one ton, or 2 tons?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—If the boat is below 1½ tons, it is charged as one ton. If it is above 1½ it is charged as 2.

Recruitment to Government service.

380. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have any fixed policy in the matter of recruitment of members of the backward and the depressed classes into the services of the State;

(b) if there is any such fixed policy, what is it;

(c) is the same adhered to invariably?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) The policy of the Government is to give preference to candidates from the Backward and Depressed Classes as far as possible.

(b) Vide answer above.

(c) Yes.

Public Service Commission.

381. **Mr. P. C. Varkey.**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether they are aware that a resolution was passed in the last meeting of the Council to constitute a Public Service Commission in the State;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in pursuance of the resolution to constitute the Commission without further delay;

(c) has any action been taken in the matter after the passing of the resolution to expedite the constituting of the Commission; and if so, what it is?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—(a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The matter is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. P. C. Varkey.—Am I to understand that the step taken only "consideration"? Nothing more was done?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Nothing more has to be done.

Mr P. C. Varkey.—There are some steps to be taken in the constitution of a Commission. May I know whether any step has been taken.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The step to be taken is, to come to a definite conclusion. We are trying to come to a definite conclusion.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—What is the reason for this delay?

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